

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1857

ICE DANCE

Requirements for Technical Rules season 2014/15

Technical Rules specify that some of them need to be completed by requirements decided by the Ice Dance Technical Committee:

- Requirements defined in the Technical Rules as valid for one season only:
 - Pattern Dances for International Competitions,
 - music requirements for Pattern Dances for International Competitions,
 - rhythms or themes, Required Elements (including Key Points and Key Point Features for Pattern Dance Elements and Partial Step Sequence) and guidelines for Short Dance,
 - Required Elements for Free Dance.

The annual requirements for season 2014/15 are included in this Communication.

- Requirements defined in the Technical Rules with an ongoing validity:
 - requirements for clothing,
 - calling specifications and Levels of Difficulty,
 - marking guides,
 - Scales of Values.

They can be updated when necessary. Updates to the current ongoing requirements, valid as of July 1st, 2014, will be published in a subsequent Communication.

1. PATTERN DANCES FOR INTERNATIONAL NOVICE COMPETITIONS

Rule 613, paragraph 1 provides that, for Novice International Competitions, the Pattern Dances will be announced annually by the Ice Dance Technical Committee in an ISU Communication not later than June 1st, to become effective on July 1st of the year following the announcement.

1.1. Basic Novice

Two (2) Pattern Dances are to be skated:

Group 1: **#1 Fourteenstep** and **#4 European Waltz**

Group 2: **#2 Foxtrot** and **#5 American Waltz**

- Season 2014/15 and every second season: Group 2
- Season 2015/16 and every second season: Group 1

1.2. Advanced Novice

Two (2) Pattern Dances are to be skated:

Group 1: **#4 European Waltz** and **#20 Tango**

Group 2: **#3 Rocker Foxtrot** and **#9 Starlight Waltz**

Group 3: **#12 Kilian** and **#23 Blues**

One group of two Pattern Dances shall be drawn before the first practice of the competition from the two groups announced for the season:

- Season 2014/15 and every third season: Group 1 and Group 2
- Season 2015/16 and every third season: Group 2 and Group 3
- Season 2016/17 and every third season: Group 3 and Group 1

2. MUSIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PATTERN DANCES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Rule 607, paragraph 5 provides that, in International Competitions, the current series of ISU Ice Dance music shall be used for the Pattern Dances unless the Ice Dance Technical Committee has decided that the music for one or several Pattern Dances is to be provided by the Couple following certain requirements.

For the season 2014/15, Couples shall provide their own music for the following Pattern Dances:

- International Novice Competitions:
 - Basic Novice: # 2 Foxtrot
 - Advanced Novice: # 20 Tango, # 9 Starlight Waltz
- other International Competitions and International Adult Competitions: as announced by the organizer in the announcement of the competition.

The music must be chosen in accordance with the Rhythm of the Pattern Dance and may be vocal. The Tempo throughout the required Sequences must be constant and in accordance with the required Tempo of the Pattern Dance (see ISU Handbook Ice Dance 2003) plus or minus 2 beats per minute.

Notes:

- The chosen music may be a tune from ISU Ice Dance music. In this case, only tunes 1 to 5 can be chosen and the Couple shall furnish competition music in accordance with Rule 343, paragraph 1.
- Violation of the above music requirements or tempo specifications shall be penalized as per Rule 353, paragraph 1.n) (ii).
- For the application of Rule 608 paragraph 1.d) with music provided by the Couple, it is specified that the start of the first Step of the dance must be on beat 1 of a measure (unless otherwise specified in the description of the dance).

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR SHORT DANCE SEASON 2014/15

3.1. Rhythms (as announced in ISU Communication 1787 with underlined amendments)

Rule 609, paragraph 1.a) provides that rhythm(s) and/or theme(s) are selected by the Ice Dance Technical Committee annually for the season. For the season 2014/15, the following Rhythms were selected.

Senior

Spanish Dance Rhythms

The Pattern Dance Element and the Partial Step Sequence must be skated on the same piece of music. The Tempo of the music throughout the Pattern Dance Element and the Partial Step Sequence must be constant and in accordance with the required Tempo of the Pattern Dance Paso Doble, i.e. 56 measures of two beats or 112 beats per minute, plus or minus 2 beats per minute.

Spanish Dance Rhythms are described in the Additions to the ISU Ice Dance Music Rhythms Booklet 1995 (see ISU Website, revised version excluding Spanish Tango).

Junior

Samba

or

Samba plus one or two of the following **Latin American Rhythms: Rhumba, Cha Cha, Mambo, Merengue, Salsa.**

The Pattern Dance Elements must be skated on the Samba Rhythm, in the style of the Samba. The Tempo of the music throughout the Pattern Dance Elements must be constant and in accordance with the required Tempo of the Pattern Dance Silver Samba, i.e. 54 measures of two beats or 108 beats per minute, plus or minus 2 beats per minute.

Latin American Rhythms are described in the ISU Ice Dance Music Rhythms Booklet 1995, pages 13 to 20 (Note: Tango and Paso Doble, which are not included in the description, are not allowed).

3.2. Guidelines and alterations

3.2.1 Guidelines

Rule 609, paragraph 1.a) provides that guidelines are published annually. For the season 2014/15 the Ice Dance Technical Committee adopted the following guideline.

Note: pending decision of 2014 ISU Congress, this guideline will be included in Rule 609, paragraph 1.a).

Elements should be integrated into the composition of the dance so the concept and choreography must produce the feeling of a unified dance.

3.2.2. Alterations

Rule 609, paragraphs 1.d) and h) provide that they can be altered annually by the Ice Dance Technical Committee. For the season 2014/15, the Ice Dance Technical Committee adopted the following specific alteration.

Paragraph 1.d): “The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and must not cross the Long Axis of the ice surface except once at each end of the rink (within no more than 20 meters of the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided they do not cross the Long Axis. However:

- crossing the Long Axis while performing the Not Touching Step Sequence or Steps 16 to 23 in Pattern Dance Elements Silver Samba,
- performing one loop within no more than 20 meters of the barrier and crossing the Long Axis:
 - inside the Partial Step Sequence in Senior Short Dance,
 - to start the second Pattern Dance Element Silver Samba in Junior Short Dance,
- performing the Not Touching Circular Step Sequence in the clockwise direction (applicable for Junior only),

do not constitute violations of these provisions.”

Paragraph 1.h): “After the clock is started with the first movement, the Couple must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops (duration must not exceed 5 seconds each) or up to one full stop (duration must not exceed 10 seconds) are permitted. In Senior Short Dance, not more than one of those permitted stops, not exceeding 5 seconds, may be included in the Partial Step Sequence. Any choreography appropriate to the music selection (including a separation of no more than two arm length apart, except for the stop permitted in the Partial Step Sequence, which must fulfill the Hold specifications of the Partial Step Sequence) may be included.”

3.3. Required Elements

Rule 609, paragraph 2 provides that the list of Required Elements to be included into composition of the Short Dance and specific requirements for these elements are announced annually from the list of options provided in this Rule. For the season 2014/15, the Ice Dance Technical Committee adopted the following specific Required Elements to be included into composition of the Short Dance.

- **Pattern Dance Element(s) and Partial Step Sequence (as announced in ISU Communication 1787 with underlined further characteristics)**

Senior:

- **One (1) Pattern Dance Element: Sequence of Paso Doble**, with Step # 1 skated on the Judges' left side,
- **One (1) Partial Step Sequence in Hold:**
 - pattern: one full circuit of the ice surface starting and finishing at the finishing point of the Pattern Dance Element;
 - duration: any exact number of four measures musical phrases;
 - Key Points listed in paragraph 4 below must be included. They can be skated in any Dance Hold or variation except Hand-in-Hand Hold with extended arms. Key Points 1 (Lady) and 2 (Man) must be skated together approximately at the same place as Key Point 1 of the Pattern Dance Element. Key Point 3 (Lady and Man) must be skated approximately at the same place as Key Point 3 of the Pattern Dance Element and must conclude the Partial Step Sequence;
 - Holds: by exception to Rule 603, paragraph 4, first bullet, Hand-in-Hand Hold with extended arms cannot be used and partners must remain in contact at all times, even during changes of Holds and allowed stop;

skated one after the other, Pattern Dance Element followed by Partial Step Sequence.

Junior:

Two (2) Sequences of Silver Samba, skated separately. Step #1 of each Sequence must be skated on a different side of the ice surface.

Specifications:

- The description, chart and diagrams of the Pattern Dances are included in the ISU Handbook Ice Dance 2003.
- Rule 608 paragraph 1 applies with the following alterations:
 - subparagraph b) – Placement: add "However, crossing the Long Axis in Steps 16 to 23 of Pattern Dance Elements Silver Samba is permitted."
 - subparagraph d) – Timing: first sentence reads "The Pattern Dance Elements and Partial Step Sequence must be skated in strict time to the music with the start of the first Step of each Pattern Dance Element or Partial Step Sequence on beat 1 of a four measure musical phrase."

- **Dance Lift:** not more than **one (1) Short Lift**

- **Step Sequence**

Senior: one (1) Not Touching Midline Step Sequence or Not Touching Diagonal Step Sequence

Junior: one (1) Not Touching Midline Step Sequence, Not Touching Diagonal Step Sequence or Not Touching Circular Step Sequence

- **One (1) Set of Sequential Twizzles**

4. KEY POINTS AND KEY POINTS FEATURES FOR PATTERN DANCE ELEMENTS AND PARTIAL STEP SEQUENCE SEASON 2014/15

Silver Samba

Sequence with Step # 1 on the Judges' side (1SS) Sequence with Step # 1 on the Judges' opposite side (2SS)	Key Point 1 Lady Step 9 (LFO Sw3) Lady Steps 16 to 18 (RBO, LBI-Qlb, RBI-SwR) Man Steps 16 to 18 (LFO, RFI-Qlf, LFI-SwR)	Key Point 2 Lady Steps 26a-26b (RBO, XF-LBI) Man Step 26 (LFO3) Lady & Man Steps 27 to 31 (RBO, CR-LBO, XF-RBIO (swing free leg forward-back-forward), XF-LBI, RBO-Qlf)	Key Point 3 Lady & Man Steps 34 to 49 (LFI, RFO, LFI-Ch, RFI, LFO, RFI-Ch, LFI, RFO, LFI-Ch, RFI, RF-Lff, LF-Rff, RF-Lff, LF-Rff, RF-Lff Qlf at end, LFI, RFI)
Key Point Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges (# 9 Lady, 16, 17, 18) 2. Sw3 (# 9 Lady): correct Turn 3. Sw3 (# 9 Lady): correct swing movement of the free leg 4. SwR (# 18): correct swing movement of the free leg 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. LFO3 (# 26 Man): correct Turn 3. RBIO (swing free leg forward-back-forward) (# 29): correct swing movement of the free leg 4. Correct Change of Edge (# 29) 5. Correct Crossed Step In Front (# 26b Lady, 29 and 30) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges (# 34, 37, 40, 43a, 48, 49) 2. Correct Slip Steps (# 43b to 47) 3. RF-Lff Qlf at end: left foot remains on the ice for ½ beat before being lifted off the ice for ½ beat

Paso Doble

Pattern Dance Element (1PD)	Key Point 1 Lady Steps 8 to 12 (LB-Rff Slip Step, RB-Lff Slip Step, XB-LBO, XF-RBIO, XB-LBI) Man Steps 8 to 12 (RF-Lff Slip Step, LF-Rff Slip Step, XF-RFO, XB-LFIO, XF-RFI)	Key Point 2 Man Steps 15 and 16 (XB-LFO OpMo, RBO)	Key Point 3 Lady Steps 26 to 28 (CR-RFO, CR-LFO, CR-RFO-SwR RFI OpMo to LBI (between counts 4 and 1)) Man Step 26 to 28 (CR-RFO, CR-LFO, CR-RFO-SwR)
Key Point Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. Correct Slip Steps (# 8, 9) 3. Correct Change of Edge (# 11) 4. Correct Crossed Step In Front (# 10 Man, 11 Lady, 12 Man) 5. Correct Crossed Step Behind (# 10 Lady, 11 Man, 12 Lady) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. Correct Crossed Step Behind (# 15) 3. OpMo (# 15): correct Turn 4. OpMo (# 15): correct placement of the free foot 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. SwR: correct swing movement of the free leg 3. OpMo: correct Turn 4. OpMo: correct placement of the free foot
Partial Step Sequence (2PD)	Key Point 1 Lady Steps 8 to 12 (LB-Rff Slip Step, RB-Lff Slip Step, XB-LBO, XF-RBIO, XB-LBI)	Key Point 2 Man Steps 8 to 12 (RF-Lff Slip Step, LF-Rff Slip Step, XF-RFO, XB-LFIO, XF-RFI)	Key Point 3 Lady Step 28 (CR-RFO-SwR RFI OpMo to LBI (between counts 4 and 1)) Man Step 28 (CR-RFO-SwR)
Key Point Features	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. Correct Slip Steps (# 8, 9) 3. Correct Change of Edge (# 11) 4. Correct Crossed Step In Front (# 11) 5. Correct Crossed Step Behind (# 10, 12) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. Correct Slip Steps (# 8, 9) 3. Correct Change of Edge (# 11) 4. Correct Crossed Step In Front (# 10, 12) 5. Correct Crossed Step Behind (# 11) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correct Edges 2. SwR: correct swing movement of the free leg 3. OpMo: correct Turn 4. OpMo: correct placement of the free foot

Note: Steps and additional descriptions of the Steps are defined/described in Rule 604 and ISU Handbook Ice Dance 2003, paragraphs I-20 for Silver Samba and I-16 for Paso Doble. An educational DVD on Pattern Dances (reference ID4) is available from the ISU Secretariat.

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR FREE DANCE SEASON 2014/15

Rule 610, paragraph 2 provides that the list of Required Elements to be included in a Well Balanced Free Dance Program and the specific requirements for these elements are announced annually from the list of options provided in this Rule. For the season 2014/15, the Ice Dance Technical Committee adopted the following specific Required Elements to be included in a Well Balanced Free Dance Program.

5.1. Basic Novice

Dance Lifts: not more than **one (1) Short Lift**

One (1) Straight Line Step Sequence (Midline or Diagonal) in Hold or Curved Step Sequence (Circular or Serpentine) in Hold

One (1) Set of Synchronized Twizzles

The **Dance Spin** is not included in the list of Required Elements for the Basic Novice Free Dance. Nevertheless, a spinning movement skated by the couple together in any hold around common axis on one foot (or two feet) with any number of rotations is permitted. A couple may choose to use this movement as part of their choreography. The Technical Panel will ignore these movements and the Judges will not consider these movements as one of the permitted stops.

Levels explanations: for Basic Novice Free Dance, in all Required Elements, only features up to **Level 2** will be counted. Any additional features will not count for Level requirements and will be ignored by the Technical Panel.

5.2. Advanced Novice

Dance Lifts: not more than **two (2) different Types of Short Lifts**

One (1) Spin, but not more

Note: A Combination Spin is not permitted.

One (1) Straight Line Step Sequence (Midline or Diagonal) in Hold or Curved Step Sequence (Circular or Serpentine) in Hold

One (1) Set of Synchronized Twizzles

5.3. Junior and Senior

Dance Lifts

Senior: not more than

- **one (1) Short Lift and one (1) Long Lift**
(the Type of the Short Lift must be different from the Type(s) of Short Lift forming the Long Lift),

or

- **three (3) different Types of Short Lifts**

Junior: not more than

- **one (1) Long Lift,**

or

- **two (2) different Types of Short Lifts**

One (1) Dance Spin (Spin or Combination Spin) but not more

One (1) Straight Line Step Sequence (Midline or Diagonal) in Hold

One (1) Curved Step Sequence (Circular or Serpentine) in Hold

One (1) Set of Synchronized Twizzles

One (1) Choreographic Element but not more

Pending decision of the 2014 ISU Congress, Rule 604, paragraph 19 provides that the Ice Dance Technical Committee specifies the characteristics of a Choreographic Element. For the season 2014/15, the Ice Dance Technical Committee has adopted the following specifications. The Choreographic Element must be either a:

- **Choreographic Dance Lift:** Dance Lift of up to ten (10) seconds, performed after all the other required Dance Lifts, or a
- **Choreographic Spinning Movement:** spinning movement performed after the required Dance Spin during which both partners performs at least 2 continuous rotations:
 - in any hold,
 - on one foot or two feet or one partner being elevated without being sustained, or a combination of the three,
 - on a common axis which may be moving.

6. SPECIFICATIONS TO REQUIRED ELEMENTS

Style of Step Sequences (other than Partial Step Sequence): the Level of Difficulty of the sole (Short Dance and Novice Free Dance) and first performed (Junior and Senior Free Dance) required Step Sequence shall be determined as per the Characteristics of Levels Style A and the Level of Difficulty of the later performed (Junior and Senior Free Dance) required Step Sequence shall be determined as per the Characteristics of Levels Style B. Characteristics of Levels Style A and Style B will be published in a subsequent Communication updating the technical requirements with ongoing validity.

Not Permitted Elements in Step Sequences and Partial Step Sequence: stops, pattern retrogressions and loops must not be included or are restricted in Step Sequences and Partial Step Sequence. They are identified as Not Permitted Elements as follows:

	Partial Step Sequence	Sole or first performed Step Sequence (Style A)	Later performed Step Sequence (Style B)
Stops*	More than the one permitted in paragraph 3.2.2	Not permitted	Not permitted
Pattern retrogressions	Not permitted	Not permitted	More than one Pattern retrogression or more than two measures of music in duration
Loops	More than one	Not permitted	Not permitted

* As per definitions in Rule 604, Dance Spins and Pirouettes are stops.

Required Elements may be skated anywhere in the program except in the required Step Sequences and Partial Step Sequence.

7. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The technical terms of this Communication written with capital letters refer to the following definitions:

Change of Edge

Rule 604, § 1.b)

Characteristics of Levels (Step Sequences) Styles A and B	Present Communication, § 6
Choreographic Dance Lift	Present Communication, § 5.3
Choreographic Element	Rule 604, paragraph 19 (pending decision of the 2014 ISU Congress)
Choreographic Spinning Movement	Present Communication, § 5.3
Combination Spin	Rule 604, § 14.e) (ii)
Crossed Step Behind	Rule 604, § 5
Crossed Step In Front	Rule 604, § 4
Curved Step Sequence (Circular or Serpentine) in Hold	Rule 603, § 4
Dance Hold	Rule 605
Dance Lift	Rule 604, § 16
Dance Spin	Rule 604, § 14.e)
Edge	Rule 604, § 1.a)
Free Dance	Rule 610
Hand-in-Hand Hold	Rule 605, § 1
Key Point	Present Communication, § 4
Key Point Feature	Present Communication, § 4
Latin American Rhythms	ISU Ice Dance Music Rhythms 1995, pages 13-20
Long Axis	Rule 601, § 1
Long Lift	Rule 604, § 16.e) to g)
Not Permitted Element	Present Communication, § 6
Not Touching Circular Step Sequence	Rule 603, § 4
Not Touching Diagonal Step Sequence	Rule 603, § 4
Not Touching Midline Step Sequence	Rule 603, § 4
Partial Step Sequence in Hold	Rule 603, § 4
Paso Doble (Pattern Dance)	ISU Handbook Ice Dance 2003, § I-16
Pattern Dance	Rules 607 and 608
Pattern Dance Element	Rule 603, § 6
Pattern Dance Sequence	Rule 603, § 3
Pirouette	Rule 604, § 14.d)
Required Elements	Rules 609, § 2 and 610, § 2
Rhythm	Rule 606, § 3
Set of Sequential Twizzles	Rule 604, § 14.b) (ii)
Set of Synchronized Twizzles	Rule 604, § 14.b) (i)
Short Dance	Rule 609
Short Lift	Rule 604, § 16.a) to d)
Silver Samba (Pattern Dance)	ISU Handbook Ice Dance 2003, § I-20
Slip Step	Rule 604, § 9
Spanish Dance Rhythms	Additions to the ISU Ice Dance Music Booklet 1995 (see ISU Website)
Spin	Rule 604, § 14.e) (i)
Straight Line Step Sequence (Midline or Diagonal) in Hold	Rule 603, § 4
Swing Roll	Rule 604, § 8.a)
Swing (American Waltz Type) Three Turn	Rule 604, § 11.b)
Tempo	Rule 606, § 2
Three Turn	Rule 604, § 11.a)
Turn	Rule 604, § 11 to 14.a)
Types of Dance Lift	Rule 604, § 16
Well Balanced Free Dance Program	Rule 610, § 2

Milan,
April 1, 2014
Lausanne,

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Fredi Schmid, Director General